Chapter 90: Glück

I MADE THE DECISION ON A WHIM.
THAT DAY, I ATTACKED THE CARRIAGE OF A NOBLE HEADING TO THE FORTRESS CITY OF WEISE.
MY MEN WERE SKILLED FIGHTERS.
BUT I NEVER EXPECTED TO BE ATTACKED BY A DEMON IN A PLACE LIKE THIS.
YOUR MEN WERE TRAINED KILLERS, WERE THEY NOT?
IS THAT BAD?
I DON'T CARE.
BUT PEOPLE LIKE THESE ARE NO MATCH FOR DEMONS.
THEY ARE TOO USED TO KILLING OTHER HUMANS.
THOSE USED TO FIGHTING AGAINST HUMANS DIE BEFORE THEY NOTICE THE DIFFERENCE.
YOU'LL NEVER DEFEAT A DEMON IN BATTLE IF YOU ASSUME THAT WE'RE LIKE HUMANS.
EVEN THOUGH DEMONS RESEMBLE HUMANS...
...OUR PHYSICAL STRENGTH AND SPEED ARE ENTIRELY DIFFERENT.
I SEE.
THANKS FOR THE ADVICE.
SO, HOW CAN ONE KILL YOU?
ARE YOU AWARE OF YOUR SITUATION?
DO YOU ENJOY CHITCHATTING?
SWF
DO I LOOK LIKE I CAN STILL FIGHT?
JUST ONE LAST SMOKE.
YOU CAN AT LEAST LET ME HAVE THAT.
SUIT YOURSELF.
YOU'RE A STRANGE ONE.
YOU DON'T REEK OF BLOOD.
YET YOU HAVE THE EYES OF A MURDERER.
THAT'S BECAUSE I AM A NOBLEMAN.
I'VE CAUSED THE DEATHS OF MY POLITICAL ENEMIES WITHOUT GETTING MY HANDS DIRTY.
BUT THEY WERE ALL SINNERS, EVEN MORE IRREDEEMABLE THAN ME.
BAD KARMA, I SUPPOSE.
I SUFFER THE GUILT EVERY SINGLE DAY.
I HAVE ONE QUESTION.
...
ASK ME BEFORE I FINISH SMOKING.
BUT ALL OF THAT WILL FINALLY COME TO AN END TODAY.
I ASSUME YOU DEMONS DON'T UNDERSTAND THE CONCEPT OF MALICE.
I SEE. MALICE AND GUILT, HUH?
YOU'RE BETTER OFF THAT WAY.
DO YOU ALSO HAPPEN TO LACK A SENSE OF JUSTICE?
I SEE.
YOU'RE BETTER OFF WITHOUT THAT TOO.
I'M THE LORD OF THE FORTRESS CITY OF WEISE.
BUT I'M A MERE FIGUREHEAD AND DON'T REALLY HOLD ANY POWER.
WEISE IS WHERE NOBLES WHO'VE LOST THEIR POLITICAL CLOUT IN THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL END UP.
IT'S A CITY FULL OF MALICE, ROTTEN TO THE CORE.
SO MANY NOBLES TAKE PART IN RUNNING THE CITY.
EVEN HERE, THEY CONTINUE TO VIE FOR POWER. THEY'VE NEVER LEARNED THEIR LESSON.
THE FAMILY THAT HAS REAL POWER IN WEISE NEGLECTS ITS MANAGEMENT.
BUT THEY HOLD ON TO POWER WITH AN IRON FIST, DRIVEN BY THEIR PERSONAL INTERESTS.
EVERY YEAR, MANY CITIZENS DIE FROM HUNGER...
THE CITY IS RIDDLED WITH CORRUPTION. THE LAWS NO LONGER MEAN ANYTHING.
WHEN I BECAME THE LORD OF WEISE, I WAS CONCERNED ABOUT THE STATE OF AFFAIRS.
BUT PEOPLE ARE STRANGE CREATURES.
WE DON'T ACT ON PROBLEMS UNTIL WE'RE CORNERED BY THEM.
I DIDN'T TAKE ANY ACTION, EVEN THOUGH I WAS WORRIED.
MY SON WAS DIFFERENT.
HE HAD A STRONG SENSE OF JUSTICE.
HE APPEALED DIRECTLY TO THE INFLUENTIAL NOBLES OF WEISE.
HEARING THAT COMING FROM THE SON OF THE MAN WHO RULED IN NAME ONLY...
...MUST HAVE ANNOYED THEM GREATLY.
SUPPOSEDLY, HE JUMPED FROM A BALCONY.
EVEN THOUGH HE HAD PREPARED A BIRTHDAY GIFT FOR HIS LITTLE SISTER.
THAT WAS SEVEN YEARS AGO.
HONESTLY, I COULDN'T UNDERSTAND HOW SOMEONE COULD COMMIT SUCH A CRUEL ACT WITHOUT ANY REMORSE...
...UNTIL I FINALLY TRIED IT MYSELF.
ALL IT TAKES IS TO ORDER YOUR MEN TO KILL.
WHAT A JOKE.
ANY FOOL CAN DO THE SAME.
ARE YOU SEEKING REVENGE FOR YOUR SON?
SO YOU UNDERSTAND THE CONCEPT OF REVENGE, HUH?
I WON'T SAY I'M NOT.
BUT MORE THAN THAT, I'M TRYING TO DO MY SON'S WILL.
IN A LAWLESS WORLD WHERE WE KILL EACH OTHER LIKE BEASTS, I'VE DONE WHAT I HAD TO...
...TO CREATE THE IDEAL WORLD MY SON WISHED FOR.
AT LEAST I BELIEVE THAT'S WHAT I'M DOING.
I HOPE IT'S POSSIBLE.
I'M DONE WITH MY SMOKE.
WHY DID YOU MAKE ME LISTEN TO THAT?
TO NEGOTIATE.
I CAN BE USEFUL TO YOU.
YOU'RE NOT LIKELY TO COME ACROSS ANOTHER MAN WHO HAS EXPERIENCED AS MUCH MALICE AS I HAVE.
I CAN HELP YOU LEARN ABOUT EMOTIONS UNFAMILIAR TO YOU.
BUT I'M NOT PLEADING FOR MY LIFE.
NATURALLY, THERE IS A CONDITION.
BUT GO AHEAD AND KILL ME IF YOU WANT TO.
I'VE BEEN PREPARED TO FACE RETRIBUTION FOR THE LAST SEVEN YEARS.
TRULY INTRIGUING.
WHAT ARE YOUR TERMS?
I WILL HAVE YOU WORK FOR ME.
HELP ME WIPE OUT THE FAMILY THAT'S IN POWER.
I WAS JUST WONDERING HOW TO DEAL WITH THEM.
UNLIKE THE OTHER CORRUPT NOBLES, THEY'RE CAREFUL AND CUNNING.
THEY'RE ALSO HEAVILY PROTECTED...
...BY TRAINED KILLERS.
WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS, GLÜCK?
FIVE OF MY RELATIVES HAVE DIED IN JUST THE LAST SIX MONTHS.
I HEARD IT WAS BANDITS.
UNFORTUNATELY, IN WEISE...
...SUCH INCIDENTS ARE NOT UNUSUAL.
PERHAPS YOU'VE MADE AN ENEMY?
I WILL HAVE SOMEONE INVESTIGATE THIS MATTER.
ARE YOU PLAYING DUMB?
WHEN MY SON DIED...
...DO YOU REMEMBER WHAT YOU SAID TO ME?
YOU SAID, "AREN'T YOU JUST BEING PARANOID?"
THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT YOU'RE DOING RIGHT NOW.
GO HOME AND GET SOME REST.
JUST BE SURE TO LOCK YOUR DOORS.
THE CITY'S REALLY PROSPERING.
IT'S THANKS TO LORD GLÜCK!
NOW WEISE IS GOING TO GROW MUCH MORE.
MACHT...
YOU'RE GOING TO BE ONSTAGE MORE AS WELL.
VERY WELL.
MACHT.
I AM THE LORD OF THIS CITY.
AS YOU COMMAND, MY LORD.

← Previous Chapter

Next Chapter →